

## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The State of Karnataka has 6.95% of total population as schedule tribes. The GOK has initiated the Ganga Kalyana Scheme (GKS) in order to improve availability of irrigation water to farmers belonging to scheduled tribes communities in 1996. It is currently being implemented by the ‘Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation.’ The main objective of the scheme is to provide irrigation facilities to small and marginal farmers of scheduled tribe groups who have dry land without any irrigation facility. GKS enables farmers to increase cropping intensity by growing more than one crop in a year and to shift to commercial crops using irrigation facilities, thereby improving their social and economic conditions.

The reference period of the evaluation is 2008-09 to 2012-13. The objectives of the evaluation are as follows.

1. Assess the additional income generated by the beneficiaries after getting the benefit of Ganga Kalyana Scheme.
2. Assess the social and economic benefits that farmers received by the scheme.
3. Know whether the children of the beneficiaries get better education as a result of economic benefit.
4. Has the convergence of other departments like Sericulture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry and Watershed development etc. taken place in enhancing the benefits?
5. Whether the process of selection of beneficiaries is transparent sanction and co-ordination with ESCOMS in completing energization is effective.

The study covers 30 districts of the state. Data was collected from 1029 individual bore well beneficiaries and 234 beneficiaries of lift irrigation. Beneficiaries were selected from maximum and minimum constituencies.

## FINDINGS

### A. Individual Bore Well Beneficiaries

#### 1. Impact on Socio-economic status

- a) **Income:** Average income per year per acre before GKS (2007-08) was Rs.5168. By 2012-13, it has increased to 6901, an increase of 33.5%.

- b) **Savings:** Eighty seven percent mentioned that savings has increased.
  - c) **Access to Health and Education:** Access to education improved in case of 88.9% and access to health improved in case of 81%.
2. Impact on Cultivable Area and Crops
- a) Average **cultivable area** increased from 3.1 to 3.22 acres.
  - b) Average **number of crops** per year increased from 1.14 to 1.77.
  - c) The proportion of beneficiaries growing **commercial crops** has increased by 20%.
3. **Impact on Net Irrigated Area:** Average net irrigated area increased from 0.51 to 2.71 acres.
4. Problems & Issues Faced by Beneficiaries:
- a) During selection, political influence was cited as the major problem
  - b) Certificates have to be selected many times.
  - c) Delay and inadequate depth are two common problems with drilling.
  - d) Delay (including no energization) is the main problem related to energisation.
5. Time Taken for entire process is more than 60 days in case of 86.5% beneficiaries.
6. In case of more than 99% of the beneficiaries the motor, pumps and pipes are the same as were provided under the scheme. In all the cases the brand is of BIS standard.
7. Satisfaction with 'the scheme' is rated as 'very much' in case of 76.7%. However, only 21.2% rated satisfaction as 'very much' with respect to 'timeliness of the scheme'.
8. Suggestions for streamlining of selection process include
- a) Selection of beneficiaries, by transparent means such Grama Sabhas
  - b) Appoint coordinator between corporation and ESCOM.
  - c) Better communication with the beneficiaries about records submission, warranty card etc.

9. In the sample women constituted 18.1% of the beneficiaries while 33% are to be reserved for women as per the scheme guidelines.
10. About 35% felt that the unit cost is inadequate. Average amount of unit cost increase sought is Rs.50,000.
11. The GoK waived the loan for the entire period through a GO SWD 78 SDC 2012 dated 18.5.2013. Hence, loan payment was very less.

## **B. Lift Irrigation Beneficiaries**

1. Average income per year per acre before GKS (2007-08) was Rs.11818. By 2012-13, it has increased to 14828, an increase of 25.4%. Saving pattern shows that in case of 78.9% there is an increase in savings. Access to education improved in case of 86.7% beneficiaries.
2. Average Cultivable area increased from 4.36 to 4.44 acres. Average number of crops increased from 1.14 to 1.55. Proportion of beneficiaries growing commercial crops increased from 68.3% to 81.4%.
3. Average irrigated area increased from 0.5 to 3.5 acres.
4. Political influence in selection of beneficiaries, long time taken for submitting documents and delay in energisation are the main problems.
5. About 76% mentioned that time taken for entire process is more than 60days.
6. In case of motors 59.3% and in case of pumps 93.4% mentioned that the failure rate was NIL. Coil problem followed by earthing problem are mentioned as main reasons for failure.
7. While 75.5% were very much satisfied with the scheme only 32.9% are very much satisfied with 'timeliness'. Delay in energisation is the main reason (75.2%).
8. In the sample women constituted 16.2% of the beneficiaries while 33% are to be reserved for women as per the scheme guidelines.
9. While 7% replied it is adequate, 38.5% told that the subsidy/loan is inadequate. About 55% did not reply.

10. About 53% Lift Irrigation Beneficiaries opined that there is need to increase the unit cost.

### **C. Corporation Officials**

1. Almost all (99.6%) of the bore wells drilled are successful. Out of which 88.3% have been energised.
2. Regarding frequency of monitoring, response rate was small. Out of this 56% mentioned that twice a month as frequency of visit.
3. Problems faced by the district level corporation officials include a) submission of wrong/incomplete information by the beneficiaries; b) delay in selection process; c) local politics etc.
4. All district corporation officials affirmed that BIS marked pumps/motors should be supplied under GKS.
5. Suggestions to make selection process transparent include a) selection through Grama Sabhas; b) Hand over selection to DE/CEO/Department officers; c) follow first come-first served principle and better coordination with other departments.
6. In many districts the officials mentioned that the unit cost may be increased by Rs. 50,000.
7. Because of the mind-set, that the Government will waive loans, majority of the beneficiaries do not repay the loans.
8. TDO posts are vacant in many districts.

### **D. ESCOM Officials**

1. Better coordination is required between two departments
2. Joint inspection/survey should be done within a month of drilling.
3. Every farmer wants new TC with a capacity of 25KVA. Such demand increase cost as well as time taken.

### **E. Bore Well Companies**

1. Beneficiaries submit documents very late.
2. Sometimes even at a depth of 800 feet water may not get water. In such situations we are at loss due to the policy of 'no water-no payment'.

3. No problems faced in getting the money from corporation.
4. Corporation rates range from Rs. 330 to 360 per meter. For casing they will get Rs.850/- per meter.
5. Rates are the same for all government departments drilling works. However, rates may vary from district to district.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are the short term, long term and policy level recommendations that emerge from the present evaluation study of GKS.

### **Short Term Practicable**

1. The District committee should be made proactive and review of progress at district level made compulsory.
2. Joint verification by ESCOM and Corporation, should be done within a month of drilling. The scheme /pump set be erected only after confirmation of yield in the bore well
3. Improve communication with community and beneficiaries, about obtaining and submission of appropriate documents; warranty cards etc. Ensure warranty cards for pump sets and motors are issued to all beneficiaries and beneficiaries demand the same.
4. Evaluation reports should be shared with the district corporation officials and they should be encouraged to initiate actions appropriate at their level.

### **Long Term Practicable**

1. Corporation should position third party agency, including a geologist, to measure the water yield before supply of pump sets which will mitigate the loss.
2. Corporations should have regular and adequate staff
3. Adequate and appropriate support to district level officials by head office of the corporation